

A SERIES ON REVELATION: is this the end?

Week 2 – Jesus 2.0

Transition: This is our second week in the book of Revelation. Last week we introduced the book by discussing some current, prevalent thoughts about the end times. It is readily apparent that this subject matter has a strong tendency to pique many peoples' interest. Even a brief search on the internet reveals that it is clogged with people voicing their personal end-time scenarios. Unfortunately, because so many of these people are either not basing their teaching on the Bible or are interpreting the Bible poorly, a lot of confusion about the end times has occurred. Throughout this series, we will do our very best to understand it the way that God intends for it to be understood.

Context: Assuming that John the apostle, the son of Zebedee, is the human author of the book of Revelation, out of all of the people who knew Jesus during His lifetime on earth, as the beloved disciple, he arguably knew Jesus as well as anyone. And yet, decades after Jesus ascended to heaven, when John sees Jesus in his vision of the Lord while on the island of Patmos, it seems like he doesn't even recognize Him. Jesus' appearance, in a word, is glorious. Today, we are going to dig deeper into how Jesus reveals Himself in new ways to John.

Scripture: Revelation 1:4-20

Discipleship Questions:

- Have you ever personally met someone who is both famous and powerful? What was the situation? How did you react when you met them?
- Think of a time when God revealed something new about Himself to you. How did that happen? What did it mean to you at the time? What did you do in response?
- Together as a group, name as many titles/descriptors of Jesus from the gospels as you can. For instance, He called Himself "the Son of Man" (a title) but He also forgave sins (a descriptor). (Ask someone to write them all down.) Once you have made a list, describe what each one means. Does any of them hold special significance to you? Which one, and why?
- Together as a group, name as many titles/descriptors of Jesus from today's passage as you can. (Ask someone to write them all down.) Which ones are listed in the first list? Which ones are new (not mentioned or alluded to in the gospels)? What do the new ones reveal about Jesus? Does any of them hold special significance to you? Which one, and why?
- There are too many things mentioned in today's reading to cover everything. What caught your attention that you would like to discuss further?
- What has God impressed on your heart through today's passage and discussion? What step(s) will you take to be more like Jesus?