



PACIFIC  
CROSSROADS  
CHURCH

August 12, 2018

# REVELATION

A RENEWED IMAGINATION

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# Reflections

Agape (Greek New Testament word for love) means understanding, redeeming good will for all men. It is an overflowing love which is unmotivated and groundless. It is not set in motion by any quality or function of its object... Agape is disinterested love. It is a love in which the individual seeks not his own good, but the good of his neighbor.

Agape does not begin by discriminating between worthy and unworthy people, or any qualities people possess. It begins by loving others for their sakes. It is an entirely “neighbor-regarding concern for others,” which discovers the neighbor in every man it meets. Therefore, agape makes no distinction between friends and enemy; it is directed toward both. If one loves an individual merely on account of his friendliness, he loves him for the sake of the benefits to be gained from the friendship, rather than for the friend’s own sake. Consequently, the best way to assure oneself that love is disinterested is to have love for the enemy-neighbor from whom you can expect no good in return, but only hostility.

Agape is not weak. It is love in action... It is a willingness to go to any length to restore community... It is a willingness to forgive, not seven times, but seventy times seven to restore community.... If I respond to hate with a reciprocal hate I do nothing but intensify the cleavage in broken community. I can only close the gap in broken community by meeting hate with love.

- Martin Luther King Jr., “A Testament of Hope: The Essential Writings and Speeches”

*‘Nocturne in Black and Gold – The Falling Rocket’ by James Whistler, 1875*

*‘Revelation: A Renewed Imagination’ logo by Jesse Wu*

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# Sermon

*All Things Are Being Made New*

Rankin Wilbourne

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# Scripture

Revelation 21:1-7, 22:3-5

21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <sup>4</sup> He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

<sup>5</sup> And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup> And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. <sup>7</sup> The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son.

22:3 No longer will there be anything accursed, but the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him. <sup>4</sup> They will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup> And night will be no more. They will need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

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## Events & News

### **Pacific Crossroads Worship Night, August 30th, 7:30 - 9:30pm**

Join us for a night of extended worship at the Lodge Room in Highland Park! Doors open at 7:30pm, music begins at 8:00pm. Free admission, all ages are welcome, and plenty of parking is available.

### **Promotion Sunday, August 19**

Next Sunday, school age children will move up a grade in Sunday school. Parents with children in Sunday school programs will receive an email from staff with instructions. Please email [info@pacificcrossroads.org](mailto:info@pacificcrossroads.org) if you have any questions or need to be added to the email list.

*View and sign up for all events on our mobile app, on our website, [PacificCrossroads.org/Events](http://PacificCrossroads.org/Events), or speak with someone at the 'New Here?' tent.*

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## Ministry Resources

### **Pastoral Care**

Our pastoral care team is here to care for you if you are in a difficult place. Email [pastoralcare@pacificcrossroads.org](mailto:pastoralcare@pacificcrossroads.org) or call our office at 310.551.0081.

### **Celebrate Recovery**

Join together weekly with others to celebrate God's healing power in our lives. Visit [PacificCrossroads.org/CelebrateRecovery](http://PacificCrossroads.org/CelebrateRecovery).