



PACIFIC  
CROSSROADS  
CHURCH

June 17, 2018

# REVELATION

A RENEWED IMAGINATION

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# Reflections

Absolutely Never Say This to People Experiencing Terrible Times: A Short List

1.“Well, at least...at least it’s not...” Don’t minimize. 2.“In my long life, I’ve learned that.” Ease up on the life lessons. 3.“It’s going to get better. I promise.” How do you know? 4.“God needed an angel.” The departed don’t become angels. 5.“Everything happens for a reason.” The only thing worse than saying this is pretending that you know the reason. 6.“I’ve done some research and...” 7.“When my aunt had cancer...” I know you’re trying to relate but you can’t. 8.“So, how are the treatments going? How are you really?” Picture the worst thing that has ever happened to you. Got it? Now try and put that in a sentence.

- From Kate Bowler’s “Everything Happens for a Reason”

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# Sermon

*The Problem of God’s Wrath*

Rankin Wilbourne

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# Scripture

Revelation 14:6-20; 15:1; 16:1, 17

<sup>6</sup> Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. <sup>7</sup> And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

<sup>8</sup> Another angel, a second, followed, saying, “Fallen, fallen is Babylon the great, she who made all nations drink the wine of the passion of her sexual immorality.”

<sup>9</sup> And another angel, a third, followed them, saying with a loud voice, “If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, <sup>10</sup> he also will drink the wine of God’s wrath, poured full strength into the cup of his anger, and he will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. <sup>11</sup> And the smoke of their torment goes up forever and ever, and they have no rest, day or night, these worshipers of the beast and its image, and whoever receives the mark of its name.”

<sup>12</sup> Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus.

<sup>13</sup> And I heard a voice from heaven saying, “Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” “Blessed indeed,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!”

<sup>14</sup> Then I looked, and behold, a white cloud, and seated on the cloud one like a son of man, with a golden crown on his head, and a sharp sickle in his hand. <sup>15</sup> And another angel came out of the temple, calling with a loud voice to him who sat on the cloud, “Put in your sickle, and reap, for the hour to reap has come, for the harvest of the earth is fully ripe.” <sup>16</sup> So he who sat on the cloud swung his sickle across the earth, and the earth was reaped.

<sup>17</sup> Then another angel came out of the temple in heaven, and he too had a sharp sickle. <sup>18</sup> And another angel came out from the altar, the angel who has authority over the fire, and he called with a loud voice to the one who had the sharp sickle, “Put in your sickle and gather the clusters from the vine of the earth, for its grapes are ripe.” <sup>19</sup> So the angel swung his sickle across the earth and gathered the grape harvest of the earth and threw it into the great winepress of the wrath of God. <sup>20</sup> And the winepress was trodden outside the city, and blood flowed from the winepress, as high as a horse’s bridle, for 1,600 stadia.

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## Events & News

### **Membership Dinner, June 25**

If you are ready to call Pacific Crossroads your church home, join us for our upcoming Membership Dinner. Our lead pastor, Rankin Wilbourne, will discuss what the Bible has to say about membership as well as what it means to be a member of PCC. Dinner provided.

### **Reason for God, June 19**

This week we are starting a group to discuss questions brought up in the book *The Reason for God*, by Timothy Keller. We will cover questions like: Isn't the Bible a myth? Hasn't science disproved Christianity? Why does God allow suffering? If you have questions about faith, join us on Tuesday nights from 7-9pm for the next 6 weeks. Email David Kleinknecht at [davidk@pacificcrossroads.org](mailto:davidk@pacificcrossroads.org) for more information.

*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).