

The Bible 20/20 Week 50: “The Power of Revelation” (12-20-20)

Reading this week: 1-2 Peter, 1-3 John, Jude

Review: Series - The Power of the Church (Gospel, Love, Community, Grace, Hope, Leadership, Rest)

Introduction: Christmas morning Apocalypse - explain the true meaning of Apocalypse!

Today: 1 Peter 1:3-12 “The Power of Revelation” - The Promise, The Work, & The Light of Revelation

1) The Promise of Revelation (vs. 3-5)

1 Peter 1:3-5 (ESV)

(3) Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, (4) to an **inheritance** that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, (5) who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be **revealed** in the last time.

Note: Living hope now, unfading inheritance then!

Context of Matthew 16 - Who do people say that I am? (lot's of misunderstanding, no clarity, no revelation!)

Matthew 16:15-18 (ESV)

(15) He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” (16) Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” (17) And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not **revealed** this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. (18) And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

Note: Peter has a divine revelation, and it give him a whole new identity.

The revelation of the truth of who Jesus is, is the bedrock of the church, and no hellish power can defeat it!

The Promise of Revelation

- **An unfading inheritance**
- **A powerful new identity**
- **The bedrock of the church in any circumstance!**

2) The Work of Revelation (vs. 6-7)

1 Peter 1:6-7 (ESV)

(6) In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, (7) so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the **revelation** of Jesus Christ.

Note: There is work to be done, but the wages are worth more than gold. You are being **refined** & Jesus is being **glorified**!

This is not a calloused explanation from someone sitting outside of trouble. Peter lived this:

- He is called Satan by Jesus!
- Almost drowns trying to follow Jesus in faith
- Denies Jesus 3 times
- Suffers greatly spreading the gospel, & Martyred for his faith (hung upside down on a cross)

But Peter **remembered** what had been **revealed** - Jesus suffered to, and so must we all . . .

Jesus spoke of His future revealing (When he comes again), & the atmosphere during that time . . .

Luke 17:20-32 (ESV)

(20) Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, “The kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, (21) nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or ‘There!’ for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you.” (22) And he said to the disciples, “The days are coming when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. (23) And they will say to you, ‘Look, there!’ or ‘Look, here!’ Do not go out or follow them. (24) For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day. (25) But first **he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation**. (26) Just as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the days of the Son of Man. (27) They were eating and drinking and marrying and being given in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. (28) Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot—they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, (29) but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all— (30) **so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed**. (31) On that day, let the one who is on the housetop, with his goods in the house, not come down to take them away, and likewise let the one who is in the field not turn back. (32) **Remember Lot's wife**.

Notes:

- **At times** - We will wish we could see him, but we won't
- **But remember, as we suffer & wait** - He suffered many things and was rejected by those he came to save
- **The earth is stored up for fire** - Just as Jesus is “unveiled” so to will we be “unveiled” and this whole world will be laid bare and exposed - by fire!
- **Therefore, remember Lot's wife** - don't look back. Look up & look ahead. Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus!

1 Peter 4:12-13 (ESV)

(12) Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. (13) But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed.

Note: Remember what has been revealed, & Endure. Rejoice that Jesus shares this suffering with you, and take heart, because you will be see the wages of the work! Your **Transformation** & his **Glorification!**

3) The Light of Revelation (vs. 8-12)

1 Peter 1:8-12 (ESV)

(8) Though you **have not seen** him, you love him. Though you **do not now see** him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, (9) obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls. (10) Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, (11) inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. (12) It was **revealed** to them that **they were serving not themselves but you**, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

Note: Even though we don't "see" Him now, we have revelation from God!

Unique & precious revelation that lights our way!

John 8:12 (ESV)

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "**I am the light of the world**. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Note: No more walking in the dark, instead light for the journey of life.

Matthew 5:14-16 (ESV)

(14) "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. (15) Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. (16) In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Note: The Light - Jesus lights us up, and shines through us that the world may see, perhaps have their eyes opened too. Others receive this healing light and he receives the glory he is due!

Light for others . . .

Romans 8:18-19 (ESV)

(18) For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be **revealed** to us. (19) For the creation waits with eager longing for the **revealing** of the sons of God.

Light for us . . .

1 Peter 5:10-11 (ESV)

(10) And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. (11) To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Conclusion:

Our Christmas Candle service - Seeing & Celebrating the light of the world

Our Reading to close out the year the next 2 weeks - in all the imagery - watch for Jesus!

Pay special attention to his letters to the churches in chapters 2-3, and to the glimpses of Jesus throughout - notice the worshipping saints - especially those who have been martyred . . .

Revelation 1:1-3 (ESV)

(1) The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the things that must soon take place. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, (2) who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. (3) Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.