

PARTICIPANT GUIDE CHAPTERS 6-11



REVELATION OVERVIEW



THE BOOK OF REVELATION HAS A DIVINE BLESSING

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" (Revelation 1:3 ESV).

The book of Revelation is the only book in the Bible that exclusively has a blessing attached to it. By studying this book, you have God's guarantee that reading and hearing the words of this prophecy will make you blessed.

So many believers avoid this apocalyptic writing, but I do not think that the book of Revelation should be avoided by Christian people; rather, I believe that it should be embraced. Perhaps, if you have avoided reading this book it is because you are afraid it's too hard to understand. The word revelation in the Greek is *apokalypsis*, which means to reveal, unveil, or make known. The idea is that of taking the lid off of a pot to see what is cooking inside.

The book of Revelation is not in our Bibles to hide things from us, but to reveal them. The devil would love nothing more than to keep you from the book of Revelation because He knows that it specifically has God's blessing attached to it.

THE BOOK OF REVELATION HAS A DIVINE OUTLINE

Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place "after this" (Revelation 1:19 ESV).

First, John was told, Write therefore the things you have seen..." This deals with the Lord's person. John has a revelation of the Lord that is described in detail in chapter 1, where he sees the resurrected Jesus in a vivid and profound way.

Second, John was told to write about,those that are..." This deals with the Lord's people. Specifically, this is a letter from Jesus, written to seven churches found in Asia Minor in chapters 2-3.

Lastly, John was told to write about, ...those that are to take place after this." This deals with the Lord's program. In chapters 4-22, John speaks of his experience in heaven and his vision of what will occur on the earth in a time that the Bible calls "The Tribulation". During this time, God's wrath will be poured out on a Christ-rejecting sinful earth to primarily wake up the nation of Israel to receive Jesus as their true Messiah.

The final chapters of the book speak of Christ's reign on earth for one thousand years, known as "The Millennial Kingdom". During this time, the earth will be returned to its Garden of Eden-like state of being. At the end of this period, Satan will be forever cast into the Lake of Fire, and God will create a new heaven and a new earth. This new heaven and earth will be completely and totally right and we shall live happily ever after; however, this is just the beginning of the goodness that God desires for you and me.



REVELATION



"Write therefore the things that you have seen, those that are and those that are to take place after this." (Revelation 1:19 ESV)

THE THINGS THAT YOU HAVE SEEN

CHAPTER 1: THE VISION

THOSE THAT ARE

CHAPTERS 2-3: THE CHURCHES

AND THOSE THAT ARE TO TAKE PLACE AFTER THIS

CHAPTERS 4-5: THE THRONE ROOM

CHAPTERS 6-8A: THE SEVEN SEALS

CHAPTERS 8B-11: THE SEVEN TRUMPETS

CHAPTERS 12-14: THE SIGNS

CHAPTERS 15-16: THE SEVEN BOWLS

CHAPTERS 17-19: THE DEFEAT

CHAPTERS 20-22: THE NEW THINGS

FEBRUARY 2020

5th Teaching Session (Rev 1-5)

12th Small Groups (Revelation 1)

19th Small Groups (Revelation 2-3)

26th Small Groups (Revelation 4-5)

MARCH 2020

4th Teaching Session (Rev 6-11)

11th Small Groups (Revelation 6-7)

18th Spring Break (No Services)

25th Small Groups (Revelation 8-9)

APRIL 2020

1st Small Groups (Revelation 10-11)

8th Teaching Session (Rev 12-17)

15th Small Groups (Revelation 12-13)

22nd Small Groups (Revelation 14-15)

MAY 2020

6th Teaching Session (Rev 18-22)

13th Small Groups (Revelation 18-22)

20th Close Out Session

Meets in Worship Center

Meets in Classrooms

Questions may be submitted to: rev@nsbcweatherford.com



PART 2: BIG WEDNESDAY



REVELATION CHAPTERS 6-11

SUMMARY

Jesus, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, begins to open the seven seals upon the scroll, unveiling a series of judgments that are to come upon the earth. The seventh seal begins another series of seven judgments, brought about by trumpets. Each set of seven judgments are saturated in imagery from the books Zechariah and Exodus.

Now I watched when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures say with a voice like thunder, Come!" (2) And I looked and behold, a white horse! And its rider had a bow and a crown was given to him to conquer (Revelation 6:1-2 ESV).
Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, Who are these, clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" (14) I said to him, Sir, you know." And he said to me, These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb (Revelation 7:13-14 ESV).
Now the seven angels who had the seven trumpets prepared to blow them (Revelation 8:6 ESV).



PART 2: BIG WEDNESDAY



REVELATION CHAPTERS 6-11

SUMMARY

Jesus, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, begins to open the seven seals upon the scroll, unveiling a series of judgments that are to come upon the earth. The seventh seal begins another series of seven judgments, brought about by trumpets. Each set of seven judgments are saturated in imagery from the books of Exodus, Joel, and Zechariah.

The rest of mankind, who were not killed by these plagues, did not repent of the works of their hands nor give up worshiping demons and idols of gold and silver and bronze and stone and wood, which cannot see or hear or walk, (21) nor did they repent of their murders of their sorceries or their sexual immorality or their thefts (Revelation 9:20-21 ESV).
Then I was given a measuring rod like a staff, and I was told, Rise and measure the temple of God and the altar and those who worship there, ⁽²⁾ but do not measure the court outside the temple; leave that out, for it is given over to the nations, and they will trample the holy city for forty-two months (Revelation 11:1-2 ESV).
And I will grant authority to my two witnesses, and they will prophesy for 1,260 days, clothed in sackcloth (Revelation 11:3 ESV).



PART 2: BIG WEDNESDAY



REVELATION CHAPTER 6 - 11

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REVELATION CHAPTERS 6-11

REVELATION CHAPTER 6

John watches as six of the seven seals are opened by the Lamb. Each seal reveals an aspect of judgment that will come upon the earth.

The first four seals reveal what is commonly referred to as "the four horsemen of the apocalypse." Each of these riders bring destruction upon the earth. In many cases, they are "given" or "permitted" what is necessary to do unspeakable evil. How would you explain God's allowing of evil?

The fifth seal reveals Christian martyrs under the altar before God. These saints are wanting to know how long God will wait before avenging them. What situations have you faced, where you had to trust and wait on God to avenge you?

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REVELATION CHAPTERS 6-11

REVELATION CHAPTER 7

After the sixth seal there is an interlude in which John sees 144,000 Jews sealed by God, as well as a multitude of believers from every tribe, tongue, and nation standing before the throne and the Lamb.

God seals 144,000 Jews (12,000 from 12 different tribes) What do you think this seal does for these 144,000?

Why do you think the Gentiles did not receive a seal from God? What does this seal tell you about the 144,000?

John sees a multitude of people before the throne that could not be numbered. John is made aware that this group of people have come out of the great tribulation (7:13-14). Do you think this signifies a great revival taking place during the time of the tribulation?

What does this chapter say to you about the importance of evangelism in the church today?

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REVELATION CHAPTER 8

As the seventh seal is opened, there was a half hour of silence in heaven. Then, seven angels took seven trumpets to deliver judgment upon the earth. In this chapter, the first four angels sound their trumpets.

When the Lamb opened the seventh seal, there was silence in heaven for 30 minutes. Why do you think this was necessary?

John sees seven angels lining up to blow their trumpets and deliver judgment upon the earth. Why do you think that God used the medium of trumpets? In your opinion, why do you believe trumpets are significant?

The third trumpet shows a star falling from heaven, given the name Wormwood (8:11). While many theologians find wormwood symbolic, indicating a bitter plant found in the middle east; it is interesting to know that the Russian word for Wormwood is Chernobyl (a Nuclear Power Plant that melted down in the Soviet Union on April 26, 1986). While this could be purely coincidental, how does it speak to you about how deadly these plagues are to the earth?

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REVELATION CHAPTERS 6-11

REVELATION CHAPTER 9

The fifth and sixth angel sound their trumpets which delivers more judgment upon the earth.

When speaking of the fifth trumpet judgment, John tells us that "people will seek death and will not find it. They will long to die, but death will flee from them" (v.6). What is your opinion as to why these people could not bring an end to their lives?

Some have concluded that John's description of the locusts and horses are his attempt at describing modern day weaponry. What is your view?

Even though a slim margin of mankind survived these devastating plagues, they did not repent; they continued to bow down to demons and handmade idols. They did not turn from murders, sorceries, sexual immorality, or thefts. Do you think the judgments of God are meant to bring people to repentance? If so, why are these people not repenting of their sins?

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REVELATION CHAPTERS 6-11

REVELATION CHAPTER 10

An angel brings the unsealed scroll that was opened by the Lamb to John. The angel then commands John to eat it and proclaim its message.

The identity of this mighty angel is often debated by Bible teachers. Some contend this being is Christ (v.1-2), while others see this being as simply an unnamed angel (v.5-6). Based on the verses in this passage, do you have any thoughts as to this angel's identity? In the context of this chapter, does it make a difference to the reader?

Just like the prophet Ezekiel (Ezekiel 3:1), John is told to eat the scroll that is given to him and then instructed to proclaim it to the nations. What symbolism do you see in John's eating of the scroll?

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REVELATION CHAPTER 11

After eating the scroll, John speaks of seeing God's temple and is instructed to measure it in a precise manner. John also speaks of seeing two witnesses of God who operate in the miraculous, even to the point of rising from the dead.

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The outer court of the temple is to be excluded from John's measurements, for it is given to the nations (Gentiles) to trample for 42 months. If the Great Tribulation is seven years long, why would 42 months be significant? What is God revealing to us in having John measure the temple?

John speaks of two witnesses who will have the ability to stop the rain, turn water to blood, and strike the earth with plagues as often as they like. Being able to perform miracles like this have caused many to attempt to identify these prophets. However, John compares these witnesses to olive trees and lampstands (Revelation 11:4). Read Zechariah 4:1-14 and compare it with John's description of these witnesses. What does this tell you about the source of power found within these witnesses?

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