

TEXT: Revelation 21-22

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Sign up if you need childcare for the all Life Group Gathering coming up on August 3rd. Follow the link [here](#)
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BIG IDEA: We hope in the Return of the King

Ground Rules:

1. *This is a letter written to 7 churches.*
2. *There is almost nothing new here.*
3. *The book is full of imagery and is NOT chronological: This is apocalyptic literature. That does not mean the end of world literature. It means “that which was concealed is being revealed.” In keeping with this style of writing, each image has a meaning - stars = angels. Dragon = Satan, lamp stands/torches = churches. And the appearance of these images isn’t always in chronological order. One theologian describes it as walking through an art gallery. Nothing is arranged in chronology, but more so by style and content.*
4. *We are in the End Times: Heb. 1:1-2 Long ago God spoke to our ancestors by the prophets at different times and in different ways. ² In these last days, he has spoken to us by his Son. God has appointed Him heir of all things and made the universe through him.*
5. *We must read with humility: If your understanding of Revelation is dependent upon the current news cycle for your interpretation - you’re wrong. How do I know? Give it a week and you’ll see. Everyone who has used the news cycle to interpret Revelation has been proven wrong because they rely on speculation. Speculation is the enemy of biblical interpretation.*

Ice Breaker: Have you ever seen a movie where once you got to the ending you could never rewatch that movie again through the same lens in which you did the first time seeing it? What movie was it? How did knowing the end change how you viewed the whole story?

Revelation 21:1-7

- € What are we returning to?
- € Will you know your loved ones in eternity?
- € How is the Bible a story of three gardens?

Genesis 2:4-9, 3:22-24

- € What does this passage show us about work?
- € What is the result of Genesis 3?

Revelation 22:12-21

- How does the story end?
- How should your life look different knowing how the story ends?
- What have you taken away from the book Revelation that changes your everyday life?
- What are areas you can grow up in, in light of the book of Revelation?

Quotes



In the beginning God had planted a garden for humanity to live in (Gen 2:8). In the end he will give them a city. In the New Jerusalem the blessings of paradise will be restored, but the New Jerusalem is more than paradise regained. As a city it fulfils humanity's desire to build out of nature a human place of human culture and community – Richard Bauckham

He has changed sunset into sunrise, and through the cross brought death to life; and having wrenched man from destruction, He has raised him to the skies, transplanting mortality into immortality, and translating earth to heaven. - Clement of Alexandria