

# REVELATION



## **Let's Talk**

Imagine that you are studying events of the 21st century at some point in the future. What might be some of the defining global events of our times?

## **Let's Study**

Revelation describes both the past, the now and the future. Keep this in mind as you work through the 'Let's Study' section.

*Read Revelation 6:1-8 and Matthew 24:4-8.*

What did Pastor Jon say of the 'one' riding on the white horse and how does the Matthew passage compare to this image? Look back over Revelation 6 and find what each of the four horses represent? How does this help us to understand all the destruction, conflict, and suffering in the world, both past and now?

*Read Matthew 24: 9-14.*

What did Pastor Jon say was the difference between capital "P" persecution and small "p" persecution? Which kind of persecution is described? What did Pastor Jon say our view of persecution should be?

*Read Revelation 6:9-11.*

Describe what happens as a result of the clash of the kingdoms. What is the cry of those that were slain? What are they waiting for?

*Read Revelation 6:12-17.*

What happens in the world when the sixth seal is broken? What do the kings, rulers, and people of the earth do at that time?

*Read Revelation 7:1-3.*

What will he place on each servant's forehead? What does it represent?

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*Read Revelation 7:9-10,13-14.*

What do all the people in the 'vast crowd' have in common?

*Read Revelation 7:13-17.*

What does God promise his people who have persevered for his glory?

## **Let's Apply**

"The final crisis is simply a cosmic meltdown. Apocalyptic movies or secular and religious movies got it wrong. The end is not caused by some meteor coming from the sky and causing havoc. The end is caused by God finally saying, do you want to be your own god?" (Darrell Johnson.) In light of this quote, would you change the way you live? How and why?

The 'vast crowd' is from every nation and tribe and people. In what ways does it encourage us to be inclusive and to appreciate our diversity? How can we work towards unity and fighting discrimination in the church?

God has sealed us with his Holy Spirit. Paul wrote that God has "identified us as his own by placing the Holy Spirit in our hearts" (2 Cor. 1:22) and when you "believed in Christ he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit" (Eph. 1:13). These passages confirm that we have the Holy Spirit within us. How does this make you feel? Let's spend some time this week in the Spiritual Discipline of Silence and Solitude, thanking God that we are sealed by His Spirit and asking Him to reveal Himself to us in all His fullness.

How does your understanding of the sermon this week encourage you to be more active in spreading the Good News of the Gospel? Share an intention with the group.

## **Let's Pray**

We read in Revelation 7:13-17 that God promises to meet our every need for protection, comfort, and sustenance. As a group, build your prayer time together around these verses by offering specific gratitude and praise to God, focusing on the promise that He will one day "wipe away every tear from [our] eyes." Tell Jesus what you are grateful for in your life this week, whether you are going through a season of joy or a time of trials.