

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION

SERIES INFO

Revelation Series Overview:

The Revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ drafted by the apostle John, to whom Jesus gave this message through an angel, is a “peeling back” of what is to take place at the end of the biblical story so that it might be a source of hope for Christians amid trouble and suffering. Apocalyptic literature draws much symbolism from the Old Testament narrative, such as the books of Daniel and Ezekiel. There is a great deal of figurative and symbolic language throughout. Correct interpretation is very important in understanding clearly who Jesus is and what is to take place. While some things are left to mystery, much of what is in the book of Revelation can adequately and carefully be understood with accurate interpretation. This is not a book of mysteries. While the text is complex, it is full of truths that every disciple of Jesus should learn and practice. Let’s take courage and find new hope in our faith in Christ as we face a world of trouble and suffering.

PERSONAL FUN FACTS

What event in your lifetime changed your world more than any other? (Think historically: 9/11, Covid, Fall of the Berlin Wall, the Internet, Moon landing, or a personal event, etc.)

TAKEAWAYS

What was a major takeaway moment during the sermon this week?

DISCUSSION

1. The Four Horsemen

Scripture: Revelation 6:1-8

What is happening in our world? This is a question that many of us ask every day. Most of us only understand history after it happens. The Revelation gives us a glimpse behind the curtain so we can understand what is really happening while history unfolds. In a world that feels chaotic and frightening, the message is, “the Lamb is on the throne!” Revelation 6 reveals something that we don’t see in the headlines of the news: history is not unfolding outside the authority of Jesus Christ. We learned this week that the four horsemen are not future individuals but are recurring realities throughout human history. The horsemen represent: conquest, war, economic oppression (scarcity), and death. These are not signs that God has lost control. They are evidence that humanity continues to resist God’s reign.

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION CONTINUED

1) Which of the horsemen seems most visible in our world today?

2) How does it change your perspective to realize these events occur under the authority of the Lamb?

2. The Martyrs

Scripture: Revelation 6:9-11

The martyrs cry, “How long, Sovereign Lord?” How many times have we prayed this prayer? It is one of the most honest prayers in Scripture. Notice that God doesn’t rebuke them, but He invites their lament. The Christian life is not pretending everything is fine; it also includes waiting.

1) Why is waiting one of the hardest spiritual disciplines? When have you prayed, “How long, Oh Lord?”

2) What situations in our world today make you long for God’s justice

3. The Nations are Shaking

Scripture: Revelation 6:12-17

The sixth seal uses imagery that could frighten us if we were not standing firm on the foundation of faith in Christ Jesus our Lord. Earthquakes. Falling Stars. Darkened sun. Blood-red moon. Yikes! These things symbolize the collapse of human systems and powers when God acts in history. Everything people trust apart from God will eventually fail. This is what the world looks like under the reign of the Lamb before the final renewal of creation—war, conquest, injustice, death, persecution, and judgment continue, but all of them are under the sovereign authority of Jesus and moving toward God’s ultimate restoration of the world.

LIFE GROUP DISCUSSION

DISCUSSION CONTINUED

- 1) What “kingdoms” do people build today that seem foundational and even secure and permanent?

- 2) What does this passage teach us about the limits of our political systems, economic systems, and/or our military power?

- 3) What would it look like for you to trust the Lamb upon the throne with an area of chaos or uncertainty in your life right now?

APPLICATION

Imagine standing beside John on the island of Patmos. The Roman Empire appears unstoppable. Christians are being persecuted. The future looks dark. The heavens open. You expect to see a warrior. Instead, you see a Lamb. Not a defeated Lamb. A slain Lamb who is standing ... alive, victorious. He is the One who holds all of history in His hands. While things look frightening from an earthly perspective, they look very different from heaven. Wars rage. Economies rise and fall. Nations shake. God’s people suffer. Yet through it all, the Lamb remains on the throne. The question is not whether the world will be shaken. The question is whether our confidence is in things that can be shaken—or in the Lamb who cannot.

PRAYER

Lord Jesus,

Lamb of God and King of kings, when the world feels uncertain, help us remember that You hold the scroll and open the seals. The plan and purpose of Almighty God is in Your hands. Teach us to trust You when we do not understand, to wait faithfully when justice seems delayed, and to live courageously in the midst of a broken world. Fix our eyes not on the chaos around us but on the throne above us. We place our hope in You. Amen.