



Revelation: Session 4, Revealing the Spirit of God to Man

Revelation 1:4-6, “John...To the seven churches in the province of Asia: Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits^{at} before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. **To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood,** ⁶ and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.”

In this verse last week...we went over practically everything the verse is trying to say... and how the Word is desiring to come and dwell in our Spirit man. If we believe that this book (Revelation) is legitimate, that this book is sound doctrine, that this book is genuine and part of God's Word, then we have to believe that John was able to see, hear and comprehend what the Lord was revealing to him (John) in order that we who read the book might believe that what he is saying “did happen, is happening, and is going to happen.”

We went over some of the titles of Jesus...Faithful witness, 1st Begotten born of the dead, ruler (Prince) of the earth)...

Now, let's explain what Jesus did for men!

- **Sets us free from our sin(s) at the cost of His own blood** (sinners with no chance of survival...no chance to be rid of our sin). He (JESUS) “Washed and Freed us”...In Greek is much alike (louein/luein) ...means to “buy out from” or “pay the price” for those in slavery.
- **“To Him who loves us”....**What happened on the cross was one availing act in time which was an expression of the continuous love of God.

And in turn, Jesus made us a kingdom...and priest. (Given us royalty and we are now priests who have direct access to God).

Important Scripture to understand Revelation: “Write, therefore, what you have seen, what is now, and what will take place later” (Revelation 1:19).

Were writing and reading the Word important in Jesus' day?

The word “write” was used by John 11 times in the Book of Revelation.

The voice from heaven commands:

1:11, “What you see, WRITE in a book...”
1:19, “WRITE the things which thou hast seen...”
2:1, “To Ephesus, WRITE.....
2:8, “To Smyrna, WRITE...
2:12, “To Pergamum, WRITE...
2:18, “To Thyatira, WRITE...
3:1, “To Sardis, WRITE...
3:7, “To Philadelphia, WRITE...
3:14, “To Laodicea, WRITE...
14:15, “WRITE, Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.”
19:9, “WRITE this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!”

Just as writing was important, reading was very important in Jesus day, too...as well as many years thereafter.

Important for the early church because printing had not been invented.

All books were handwritten with archaic pens and parchment.

Books were scarce and expensive.

Note: Public had to rely on the reading of Scripture in church for their knowledge of it.

GOD'S WORD WAS INTENDED TO HAVE THE CENTRAL PLACE IN CHURCH...THEN, NOW, AND ALWAYS.

It is not good enough to just read and listen to the Word...You must read and heed the Words of the Lord. Same as “Keeping the Word of the Lord.”

To the messengers of God's Word:

“You must read, heed, weed, and feed...to effectively lead those who are to be following you.”

Basically, “The Christian MUST read and put into action what God is placing in your spirit.” Then we are to weed out the unbecoming, non-spiritual areas “the deceiver” is trying to place in our spirit-man. Only feed those requests God is placing in your mind, will and emotions.

Not just the pastors—every believer is to “do His Word.

In John's writings, he stopped right in the middle of a phrase and just started praising the Lord. You will see this more than once in Revelation.

"Look, he is coming with the clouds," and "every eye will see him, even those who pierced him"; and all peoples on earth "will mourn because of him." (1:7)

Doxologies of praise throughout the book:

4 living creatures, 4 and twenty elders, a hundred million angels, vast multitudes of redeemed from all nations...with voices like the ocean roar...make heaven resound with PRAISE TO GOD!

- *Worthy art thou to receive glory, honor, and power (4:11)*
- *Worthy is the Lamb...to receive power, honor, glory and blessing (5:12)*
- *Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him that sitteth on the throne, and to the Lamb forever (5:13; 7:10, 12)*
- *Great and marvelous are thy works...just and true are thy ways, Thou King of the Ages (15:2,3)*
- *Hallelujah, salvation and glory and honor and power to the Lord our God.*
Hallelujah...Hallelujah...Hallelujah...the Lord God omnipotent reigns...rejoice and give glory to Him. (19:7)

No wonder John was quick to tell us about the RAPTURE...

1:7, "Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, ...So shall it be! Amen."

2:25, "Hold fast until I come.."

3:11, "I come quickly, hold fast what you have..."

22:7, "Behold, I come quickly"

22:12, "Behold, I come quickly and my reward is with me."

22:20, "Even so come, Lord Jesus."

Actually...there are 9 times in Revelation where John expresses in words that the Lord is coming back.

Acts 1:9-11, Jesus ascended in a cloud and "will come back again in like manner."

So...When will the rapture take place?

Why is it important to us today?

What do you believe as far as when it might take place?

Do you think I know? Do you think any person or anyone in heaven knows?

The pastor does not know...You or I do not know!

The weatherman gives us his best guess through all the technological data as to when a tornado/hail storm might hit. From the data we read in the Word, we should be able to tell when the season is right for our Lord Jesus is to come back for His bride.

We are to “Watch and be ready!”

Matthew 24:36, 42-44-36“But about that day or hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father...⁴² “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. ⁴³ But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.”

No Commandment Appears More Frequently in the New Testament Than to Watch!

- **Watchfulness Should Be the Constant Attitude of the Christian Life.**
 - ✓ Paul says, “It is full time to wake from your sleep!” Romans 13:11
 - ✓ “Be watchful, stand firm in your faith.” 1 Corinthians 16:13
- **The Christian Must Be on the Watch Against the Wiles of the Devil.**

1 Peter 5:8, “Be alert, be on watch! Your enemy, the Devil, roams around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.” (GNV)

 - ✓ **Watch for the continual attack of Satan**
- **The Christian Must Be on the Watch Against Temptation.**

“Watch and pray that you may not enter into temptation,” Jesus (Matthew 26:41).
- **Christians Need to Be on the Watch for the Coming of the Lord.”**
 - ✓ “Watch therefore, for you do not know what day your Lord is coming.” Jesus, Matthew 24:42
 - ✓ “What I say to you, I say to all... Watch!” Mark 13:37
 - ✓ “Let us not sleep as others do. Let us keep awake and be sober.” 1 Thessalonians 5:6

“Every person should live every day as if it was his last!

- **The Christian Must Be on the Watch Against False Teachers.**

Acts 20:29-31 “Grievous wolves will invade the flock from outside and inside men will speak perverse things...therefore, watch!”

As the Christian Must Watch for Jesus Christ, Let Us Not Forget that Jesus Christ is Watching Us!

“I have not found your works perfect” says the Risen Christ, “In the sight of my God!”

- ✓ Christ is looking for something from us. (Our love, loyalty and service)

- ✓ The things a man must do lies in his hands.....He must make the decision to do the works of Christ!

The God in Whom We Trust and Adore!

Revelation 1:8, "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

- "Alpha" is the 1st letter of the Greek alphabet; "Omega" is the last.
- **Alpha to Omega...would indicate completeness.**
- **"Who is, and Who was, and Who is to come"...**
 - ✓ He is the Eternal One.
 - ✓ He was before time began; He is now; and He will be when time ends.
 - ✓ He has been the God of all who have trusted in Him.
 - ✓ He is the God in whom at this present moment we can put our trust; and...
 - ✓ There can be no event and no time in the future which can separate us from Him.

Romans 8:38-39

- **God is the Almighty!**

The word for "Almighty" is "pantokrator"-Gk.

Meaning: *The One who has dominion over all things.*
 It is a word that means: "If men are in the hands of a God who does not forsake, in the hands of a God who does not lie and who does not die, NOTHING CAN PLUCK THEM AWAY."

*"My times are in thy hand;
 I'll always trust in thee;
 And, after death, at thy right hand
 I shall forever be."*

From Every one of Us Jesus Christ is Looking for Something; and for Every One of Us There is Something to Do.

Are you a willing vessel?...He's watching to see what you decide.

