

TO FREE US FROM OUR SINS

Wednesday Gathering; Revelation 1:1-8; Week of Sunday, August 22, 2021; Steve Thiel

God made a way for sinful people to be reconciled to God through Christ's death on the cross, which frees us from the penalty of sin, the power of sin, and ultimately, the presence of sin. In response, we worship Him, live free from fear, and long for His return!

I. The Revelation of Jesus Christ – Read Revelation 1:1-3

- A. What is the context in which the book of Revelation is written? And what do you think is the significance that “God gave” us the revelation of Jesus Christ through the Apostle John?

- B. John declares in verse 3 that a person is “blessed” in the reading, hearing, and keeping the Word of God. As you navigate the difficulties of life, do you consider yourself blessed to know and obey Jesus? What are obvious examples that demonstrate you consider yourself blessed?

- C. What would be specific ways in which you would like to grow in keeping the Word of God (Christ's commands) with greater consistency, increased intentionality, and deeper passion?

II. The Praise of Jesus Christ – Read Revelation 1:4-6

- A. In verses 4-6, how is the focus clearly on Jesus? What do we learn about the person of Christ and the work of Christ? Out of the things listed here, which is the most significant to you?

- B. John says that by Jesus' blood, He freed us from our sins. What do you think it means when theologians describe Jesus' death as a “penal substitutionary atonement?” Those are big works, but what is the significance and importance of each of the words in that phrase??

- C. Read Romans 6:1-12. As a person who has identified themselves in Christ's death, burial, and resurrection, what does it look like to walk in newness of life with resurrection power over sin?

- D. After reading Rev. 20:11-21:1, how clear is it that there is a judgment coming? How would you describe the new heavens and new earth? Is it something that you're looking forward to?

III. The Response to Jesus Christ – Read Revelation 1:7-8

- A. Revelation 1:1 and 1:7 say that Jesus is coming back sometime soon. Do you actually believe that? What are different things that we can do to keep that reality in the forefront of our lives?

- B. Jesus is worthy of our worship. But worship is more than singing hymns on Sunday morning. Worship is the way we live our lives during every single moment of every single day. How would you like to grow in your worship of Jesus? Would it be in the way you spend your money or your time? Would it be in the way that you value relationships or resources?