

Revelation
The Lamb of God: On His Throne and Among His People
One Like a Son of Man
Revelation 14:14-15:8

Study Notes

Quotes and Thoughts

God's grace is a gift to us that we do not deserve. It comes from the Greek word *charis*, which, in the first century, denoted a gift that could never be repaid.

God's mercy indicates compassion and kindness resulting in a withholding of judgment that *is* deserved. It comes from the Greek word *eleos*.

When Jesus prayed for God to **forgive** those who crucified him (Luke 23:34), he was not asking for God to save them, but, rather, he was asking for God to be merciful to them – to not destroy those who were crucifying the Lord of glory. It was like Jesus was saying, “Let be! Let be!” Forgive comes from the Greek word *aphiemi*, meaning to “put something away.”

Scotty Smith, longtime pastor at Christ Church in Franklin, TN, said that when he was a multi-sport teenager, he boasted of his place in heaven and was delighted that he was on the winning team. He would tell others, “I have read the end of the book, and we win!” It was only later that he realized that God is above the fray, above the competition. It is not “our side” – it is “God's side,” and the only reason we are worthy to be brought into God's family is Jesus. Such an understanding should turn our hearts toward the Lord and his purposes. Hear what Scotty Smith had to say about his new understanding from Scripture, quote:

Such a heart is reflected in John the Baptist when he said of Jesus, “**He must become greater; I must become less**” (John 3:30). We also see this spirit in the Apostle Paul when he affirmed, “**For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain,**” (Philippians 1:21); and “**I consider my life worth nothing to me, if only I may finish the race and complete the task the Lord Jesus has given me – the task of testifying to the gospel of God's grace**” (Acts 20:24). Already in Revelation we have witnessed this freedom and focus in the martyrs who “loved not their lives unto death.”

These who have followed the Lamb before us clearly understood that Jesus does not join our team to help us win in life. He didn't come to baptize our self-interests. Jesus

teaches us to pray, **“Your kingdom come, your will be done” (Matthew 6:10).** Through the gospel we are grafted into His heart and made partakers of His purposes and triumphs! Perhaps a better way to summarize the later chapters of Revelation, then, would be, **“I read the end of the book and Jesus wins and will reign forever!”**

Scripture Associated with the Text and Message

Ephesians 2:8 For by **grace** you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

Titus 3:4 But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own **mercy**, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,

Luke 23:34 And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.”

- The word for “forgive” comes from the Greek word *apheimi*, and can carry the meaning of “letting go.”
- Jesus was saying something like, “Father, let be, let be – do not destroy them.”

Daniel 7: 13 “I saw in the night visions,

and behold, **with the clouds of heaven**

there came one like a son of man, (cf. with Revelation 14:14)

and he came to the Ancient of Days

and was presented before him.

14 And to him was given dominion

and glory and a kingdom,

that all peoples, nations, and languages

should serve him;

his dominion is an everlasting dominion,

which shall not pass away,

and his kingdom one

that shall not be destroyed.

Revelation 1:7 Behold, **he is coming with the clouds**, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

Matthew 25:31 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. 32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33 And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. 34 Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ 37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 38 And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? 39 And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ 40 And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.’

41 “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42 For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ 44 Then they also will answer, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?’ 45 Then he will answer them, saying, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Romans 9:1 I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit— 2 that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. 3 For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh.

For the Song of Moses, see Exodus 15:1-18.

Jeremiah 10:7 Who would not fear you, O King of the nations?

For this is your due;
for among all the wise ones of the nations
and in all their kingdoms
there is none like you.